



THIS FORM IS BASED ON PTO/SB/30 (08-00)

# REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application  
filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

|                        |              |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Application Number     | 09/873,731   |
| Filing Date            | June 4, 2001 |
| First Named Inventor   | Ekwuribe     |
| Group Art Unit         | 1711         |
| Examiner Name          | Duc Truong   |
| Attorney Docket Number | 9233.29      |

**COPY****RECEIVED****APR 30 2003****TECH CENTER 1600/2909**

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 13.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of an RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which was established RCE practice.

## 1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) with 33 references
- iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_
- i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$750.00 enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)
- d. ☒ If necessary, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-0220

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

|                   |                       |                                   |                |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Name (Print/Type) | Mary L. Miller        | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 39,303         |
| Signature         | <i>Mary L. Miller</i> | Date                              | April 10, 2003 |

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

Express Mail Label No. EV193585849US; Date of Deposit: April 10, 2003

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: BOX RCE, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

|                   |                           |      |                |
|-------------------|---------------------------|------|----------------|
| Name (Print/Type) | Vickie Diane Prior        | Date | April 10, 2003 |
| Signature         | <i>Vickie Diane Prior</i> |      |                |